



DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

News Release

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

LAURA H. THIELEN, CHAIRPERSON
Phone: (808) 587-0320
Fax: (808) 587-0390

For Immediate Release: June 2, 2009

DLNR TO CELEBRATE NATIONAL TRAILS DAY ON JUNE 6 WITH HIKE ON KAHAKAPAO TRAIL IN MAKAWAO FOREST RESERVE

KAHULUI, MAUI – In observance of American Hiking Society's National Trails Day®, Na Ala Hele, the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Forestry and Wildlife's Trails and Access Program, will sponsor a hike to celebrate this important day and to thank the many volunteers who have helped construct and maintain the trails within the state's Na Ala Hele (NAH) trails system.

On Saturday, June 6, 2009, NAH will offer a guided hike on the Kahakapao Loop Trail in the Makawao Forest Reserve. Registration is required and limited to the first 60 participants.

This hike, rated at an intermediate level of difficulty, will be approximately 5.2 miles long, starting at approximately 2,800 feet above sea level, climbing to approximately 3,800 feet above sea level and looping back down to 2,800 feet above sea level.

Participants need to wear sturdy shoes, bring water, snacks, hat, rain jacket, and sunscreen.

National Trails Day was created to promote public awareness of and appreciation for America's trails and the people who build and maintain them, to promote health benefits of trail walking, encourage partnerships between land managers, and encourage cooperative efforts among various trail users.

The Department of Land and Natural Resources is sponsoring National Trails Day in partnership with the American Hiking Society, Nature Valley, Backpacker Magazine, Lipton Tea®, Merrell, REI, Trimble Outdoors, EMS, American Park Network, USDA Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, US Fish & Wildlife Service, National Park Service and US Department of Transportation Federal Highways Administration.

“Without the support of volunteers, partnering land managing agencies, and outdoor-minded businesses our trail system would be lacking. Hawai‘i’s hiking trails allow us access to our natural environment and lend an overall sense of well being,” said Laura Thielen, DLNR director.

To register to attend the June 6 event, contact Torrie Nohara at (808) 873-3508.

Information about the state’s island-wide hiking trail network and important safe hiking tips can be found online at www.hawaiitrails.org

#

News in brief: In recognition of National Trails Day, on Saturday, June 6, 2009, the Na Ala Hele Trails and Access Program will offer a free guided hike on the Kahakapao Loop Trail in the Makawao Forest Reserve. Registration is required and limited to the first 60 participants. To register call 873-3508.

For more information news media may contact:
Deborah Ward
DLNR Public information specialist
Phone: (808) 587-0320